



NORWICH
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Remnants of Them, Parallel Culture and Horizontal Painting

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Output Reference: NUA-SLW-01

Output Date: 2014-2016

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1. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Output title	Remnants of Them, Parallel Culture and Horizontal Painting
Output type	M - Exhibition
Output date	2014-2016

The series of works, produced since 2012, derive from experiments with paintings in multi-media presented off the wall. Longworth-West uses traditional painterly tropes in dialogue with experiences of reading space, material and subject in the contemporary image world.

Research starts with found source material, which Longworth-West manipulates through drawing to create edited and abstracted forms, a process that she documents on Instragram©. These images are then recontextualised over a surface of traditional handmade gesso ground, which is pigmented and applied in layers. Sanded to a smooth finish, colour is fused in between the overlaid gesso to produce an unpredictable and inconsistent surface. Longworth-West exploits the incidental qualities of the materiality of paint while also exploring the limits of the recognisable image. Showing both the surface and the picture simultaneously, the traditional painting techniques employed are a means of emphasising the material quality of the painted surface, and also an intimation of the many disconnected images we see, click, swipe and share each day.

The physical nature of painting is considered further through Longworth-West's presentation of her work on custom-made plinths or tables, exploring the dimensional space that painting can occupy. These display modes are also a visual link to the layering process of image-making used whilst composing a painting.

The series produced three artworks from 2014 to 2016: *Remnants of Them* (2014); *Parallel Culture* (2016) and *Horizontal Painting* (2016). These have been exhibited in one solo and a number group exhibitions in the period.

2. RESEARCH PROCESS



Figs.1-3 *Remnants of Them* l-r: collection of remnants of dried pigmented gesso; trial composition; display structure

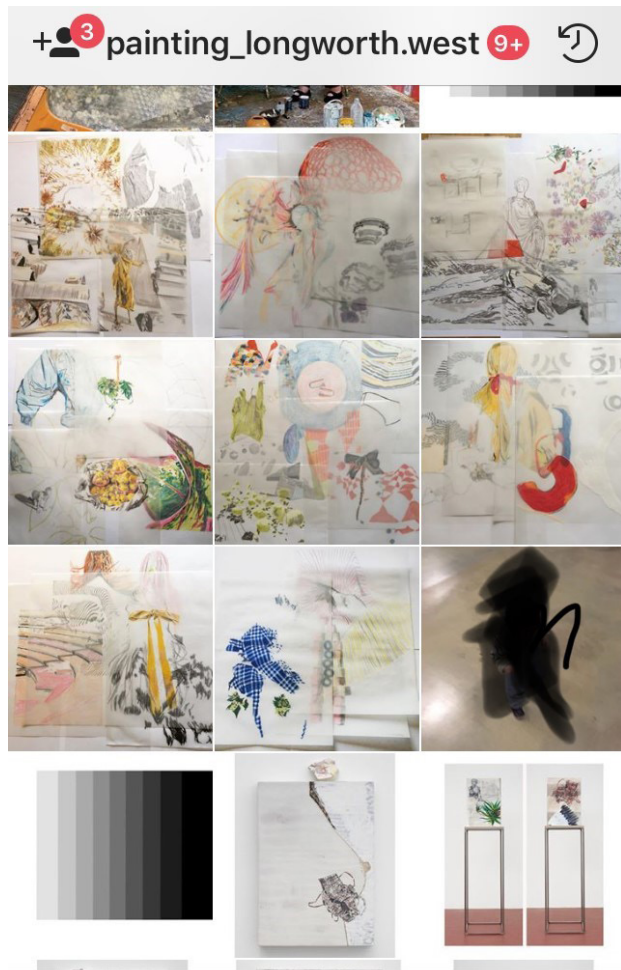


Fig.4 *Parallel Culture*: screen shot of timeline of drawing sessions documented on Instagram©

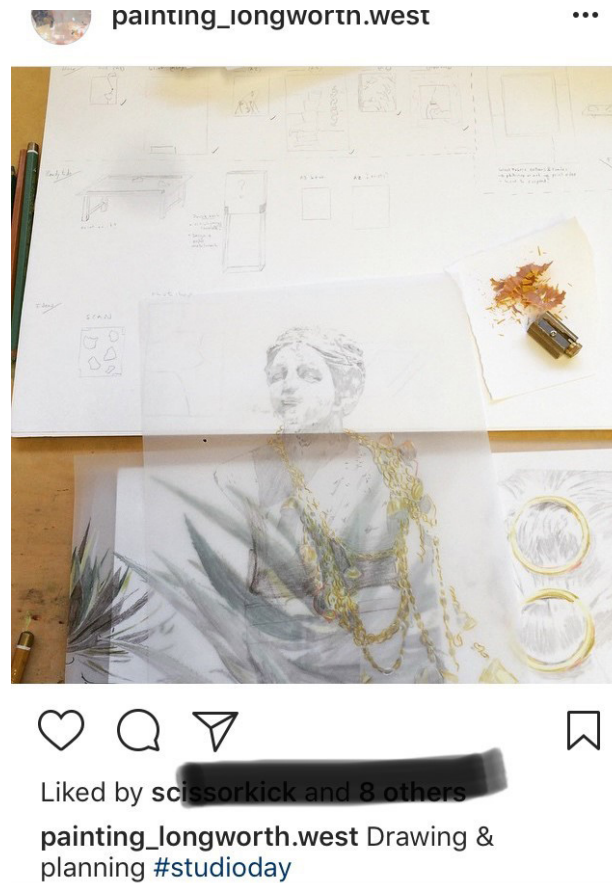


Fig.5 *Parallel Culture*: drawing and plans including head and plant from 'side a' of diptych



Fig.6 *Parallel Culture*: preparing the gesso

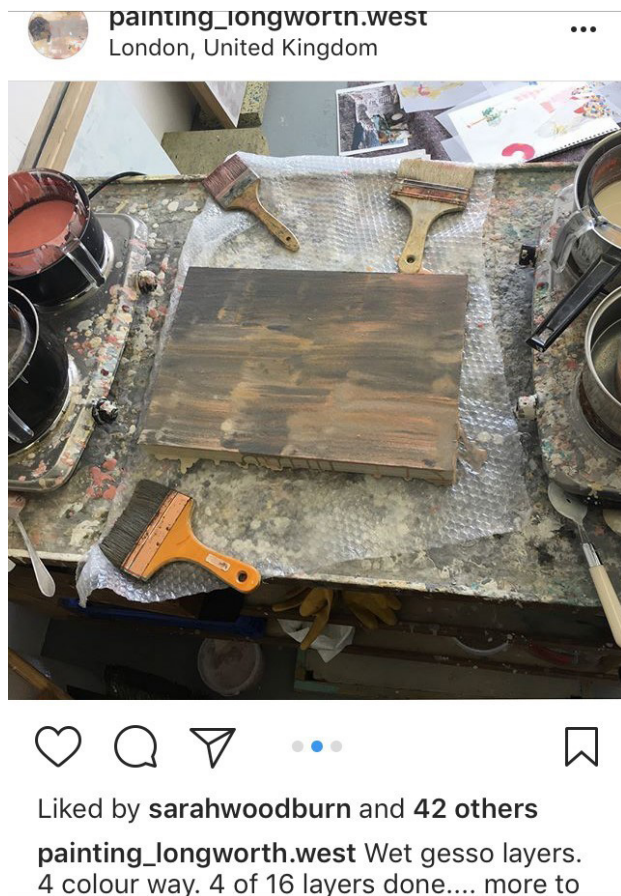


Fig.7 *Parallel Culture*: wet gesso layers



Fig.8 *Parallel Culture*: assembling ideas including 'side b' of diptych



Fig.9 *Parallel Culture*: assembling ideas including 'side b' of diptych



Fig.10 *Parallel Culture*: surface in the process of wet and dry

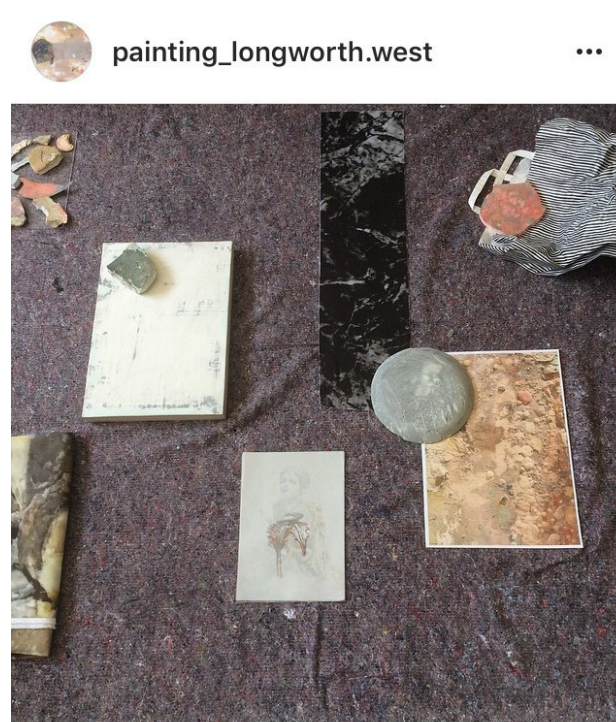


Fig.11 *Horizontal painting*: floor composition



Fig.12 *Parallel Culture*: display structure

3. RESEARCH INSIGHTS

The series develops Longworth-West's research into the continued relevance of the physicality of the painting process and of the objecthood of painting in an increasingly digitised image-world.

The three works in this series are:

Remnants of Them (2014)

Pigment, gesso and wood, 115 x 35-60 x 90cm

Parallel Culture (2016) Diptych

Oil paint, spray paint, oil pastel, silver leaf on pigmented gesso panel and steel structure H182 x W45 x D45 cm

Horizontal painting (2016)

Pastel and oil paint on papers, remnants, oak, perspex, pigmented panel and steel H73 x W82 x L115 cm



Fig.13 *Remnants of Them* (2014) Installed at Aldeburgh LOOKOUT



Fig.14 *Parallel Culture*, sides a and b (2016)



Fig.15 *Horizontal painting* (2016) side view



Fig.16 *Horizontal painting* (2016) top view

4. DISSEMINATION

Remnants of Them was first shown at Aldeburgh LOOKOUT April 2014 and subsequently exhibited in ‘The Trouble with Painting Today’ a group show Oct-Dec 2014 at the Pump House gallery, Battersea Park, London

<https://www.artrabbit.com/events/the-trouble-with-painting-today/> (accessed 15 March 2021)

Exhibiting artists: Russell Chater, Brian Cheeswright, Yumi Chung, Susan Connolly, Sarah Cooney, Daisy Delaney, Robin Footitt, Marita Fraser, Abi Freckleton, Tina Jenkins, Nnena Kalu, Hannah Luxton, William Mackrell, Jaya Mansberger, Cara Nahaul, Raksha Patel, Niki Russell, Ellis Sharpe, Lucy Smalley, Joan Sugrue, Guo-Liang Tan, Sarah Longworth-West, Felice Zhukov

Longworth-West contributed to a panel discussion ‘What is the Trouble with Painting Today?’ held at the Pump House on 28 Nov 2014, hosted by the Hannah Conroy, curator of the exhibition.

Parallel Culture and Horizontal Painting were first exhibited in ‘Merge Visible’, a group exhibition selected by Charley Peters held at Contemporary British Painting, The Crypt, St Marylebone parish church London NW1 from 17 January 2017- 24 March 2017, accompanied by an exhibition catalogue.

Exhibiting artists: Lisa Denyer, Ian Goncharov, Phil Illingworth, Sarah Longworth-West, Lee Marshall, Laurence Noga, Playpaint, Clare Price

Longworth-West contributed to a panel discussion on the exhibition was Chaired by Juan Bolivar on 18 March 2017 at Contemporary British Painting, London NW1.

Parallel Culture was subsequently exhibited in the following two shows:

‘The Garden of Forking Paths’, Lewisham Art House 16-27 March 2016, Curated by Russell Terry

<http://www.lewishamarthouse.org.uk/project-space/the-garden-of-forking-paths/> (accessed 15 March 2021)

‘WIMMIN II’ as part of Art Licks Weekend 2019, Enterprise House, London 17 – 20 October 2019 <https://artlicksweekend.com/2019/event/wimmin-ii/> (accessed 15 March 2021)



Fig.17 Installation at 'Merge Visible' including *Parallel Culture* and *Horizontal painting*



Fig.18 Poster of panel discussion



Fig.19 Exhibition Catalogue



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